

CULLEN



MARGARET RIVER



2005 CULLEN DIANA MADELINE CABERNET MERLOT

WINEMAKER : Vanya Cullen
REGION : Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS : Cabernet Sauvignon (75%), Merlot (16%), Malbec (5%), Cabernet Franc (4%), Petit Verdot (1%)
MATURATION : 19 months in 70% new French oak barrels
ALCOHOL : 14% alc/vol

BACKGROUND :

Diana Madeline Cullen will be remembered one of the Australian wine industry's most remarkable women. Responsible for crafting the Cullen wines from 1981, Di handed the reins to her daughter, Vanya, in 1989, who was also awarded Australian Wine magazine's highly-esteemed "Australian Winemaker of the Year" award in 2000.

VINTAGE NOTES :

The dry and cool growing season of 2005 produced fruit with good natural acidity, and intense color and flavor. Yields were slightly below average, while the abundance of Marri blossom kept bird-damaged fruit to a minimum. Cullen's second biodynamic harvest has produced wonderful results with increased fruit brightness and vitality.

TASTING NOTES :

The 2005 Diana Madeline is a magnificent inky red color with a dense purple meiniscus. The nose combines youthful dark berry fruits with intense pot-pourri notes for a powerful yet elegant example of Margaret River Cabernet. Dense black cherry and cassis fruits combine with lifted floral notes and fine, dusty tannins, while the exceptionally long finish reflects the quality of both producer and vintage. Diana Madeline is included in the 'Exceptional' category of Langton's Classification of Australian Wines.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

96 pts James Halliday, 93 pts Stephen Tanzer, 92 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT CULLEN :

A founding winery of Margaret River, Cullen was established in 1971 by pioneering winemakers Kevin and Diana Cullen. Since that time, an unrelenting commitment to quality, integrity and sustainability has positioned Cullen as one of Australia's greatest estates - and Margaret River as one of the nation's premier wine-producing regions. The mature, biodynamically-farmed vineyards produce elegant, age-worthy wines that draw worldwide critical acclaim, including what is regarded by many as the country's definitive Bordeaux blend.



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